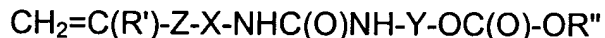


TITLE**POSITIVE-WORKING, THERMALLY SENSITIVE IMAGEABLE ELEMENT****ABSTRACT**

Alkali soluble copolymers and imageable elements useful as lithographic printing plate precursors that contain the alkali soluble copolymers are disclosed. The alkali soluble copolymers comprise, in polymerized form: (a) N-phenylmaleimide, N-cyclohexylmaleimide, N-benzylmaleimide, or a mixture thereof; (b) acrylamide, methacrylamide, or a mixture thereof; (c) acrylonitrile, methacrylonitrile, or a mixture thereof; and (d) one or more monomers selected from monomers of the structure:



in which:

X is $-\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_2-$ or $-(\text{CH}_2)_n-$, in which n is 0 to 12;

Y is *o*-, *m*-, or *p*- $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-$;

Z is $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{O}-$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NH}-$, or *o*-, *m*-, or *p*- $-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-$;

R' is hydrogen or C₁ to C₄ alkyl; and

R'' is C₁ to C₁₂ alkyl, C₁ to C₁₂ arylalkyl, C₁ to C₁₂ aryl, C₁ to C₁₂ alkenyl, or trimethylsilyl.